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MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

STAGE AFFAIRS.

Although the regular dramatic season in this city is drawing toward its close, no less than sixteen theatre are open here this week, and theatrical entertainments are offered in considerable variety. Nothing of much importance, however, is anywhere visible. Melodramas, domestic plays, musical farces and burlesques occupy the stage, and will continue to occupy it for several weeks, when may be expected a general cessation of activity in this department of labor. No actor of the first rank is now before the public of New-York, nor is any serious question of dramatic art now raised for the public's consideration. We are on the verge of the summer half. Rest—more needed among all classes of the busy workers in this toil-worn capital—should now be contemplated; and among actors and managers, there will naturally be reflection upon what has passed, and thought upon what is to come.

The week just ended was signalized by the presentation of a quantity of melodious nonsense, under the name of "Madam Piper," at Wallack's Theatre, and by the production of a heavy, old-fashioned English melodrama entitled "The Wages of Sin," at the Fourteenth Street Theatre. The former piece is exceedingly flimsy and trivial. It makes, however, no pretension beyond that of being a mere trifle. Its scenes are gay, and a number of pretty faces and figures appear in them, and its trivialities are associated with cheerful music. It was brought out on the 13th inst., and it seems likely to enjoy a brief run. A tendency toward the musical burlesque, as a summer specialty, is one of the signs of the drift of popular taste. "Bluebeard" is prosperous at one theatre, and a revival of "The Devil's Auction" is announced at another; while the light operas of "Falks" and "A Night in Venice" still hold their place, and Messrs. Harrison and Gourlay have had success with their musical form of "Skipped by the Light of the Moon." It is likely that other pieces of this class will be produced, as the weeks slip by, and at Niblo's they are preparing to reinstate the splendors and follies of spectacle, with a piece named "The Seven Ravens." No one of these things can be viewed as of serious importance. Each will have its little day, and all, probably, will vanish when the great heats of summer descend upon the city.

The melodrama of "The Wages of Sin," at the Fourteenth Street Theatre, followed hard upon "The Pulse of New-York" at the Star. One work at a time, or this kind, is as much as patience can endure, and a very little of either of these pieces will satisfy any reasonable spectator. In the former there is an exposition, somewhat confused and extravagant, but expeditious and sometimes effective, of the manner in which toruous crime is punished and hidden iniquity brought to light in a great city. A hairbreadth escape from a fallacy accident, a woman who comes to be the victim of her own passion, the coaching party driven by C. Oliver Leinen, and Miss Weston, Mr. Peters and Bridgewater Moore making up the party.

The weddings of the week were grouped on Wednesday, and Brooklyn claimed the most of them. Miss Louise Adele Longhi was married to Frank Henry Tyler at Mr. Longhi's house, and Miss Gertrude J. Leverick, of Pierpont-st., was married to Frederick Ingram, Jr., of Rev. Dr. Storrs' church. Both weddings were largely attended, and to them Lachenay had at the piano in Wall Street. Not a few New-York people went to New-Haven on Wednesday to see the wedding of Miss Eleanor Root Silman, daughter of Professor Benjamin Silman, man of Yale College, and William Arthur Rogers, of Clarendon. The wedding was brilliant in every respect. The annual dinner of the National Academy of Design in this city, in the evening, was as joyful as may be expected when painters drop their palettes to cater to their palates. Mrs. John Lawrence gave a ladies' luncheon party, and B. Priestly, of Bradford, England, was honored at a dinner at the Union League Club by W. G. Hitchcock.

A musical reception was given by Mrs. Richard J. Leggett on Thursday. Mrs. Frank Leslie gave a reception at the Victoria Hotel in the evening, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Wilex, on their wedding tour, Ward to Meriden, Conn. Mrs. Wilex was formerly Miss Alice Wheeler, whose voice has become familiar to many. Several other versifiers were present and the reception assumed a literary character.

Yesterday was another of society's field days, the specimens of the Meadow Brook Hunt Club being the chief attraction. The ride down to Meadow Brook and back, the races, the shooting, the luncheon, and the hunt, have gone down in the gamblers' price since the Rev. Dr. Storrs' church. Both weddings were largely attended, and to them Lachenay had at the piano in Wall Street. Not a few New-York people went to New-Haven on Wednesday to see the wedding of Miss Eleanor Root Silman, daughter of Professor Benjamin Silman, man of Yale College, and William Arthur Rogers, of Clarendon. The wedding was brilliant in every respect. The annual dinner of the National Academy of Design in this city, in the evening, was as joyful as may be expected when painters drop their palettes to cater to their palates. Mrs. John Lawrence gave a ladies' luncheon party, and B. Priestly, of Bradford, England, was honored at a dinner at the Union League Club by W. G. Hitchcock.

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It is, however, old material and freighted with trite morality. Its typical sinner is a scoundrel named "Maver," who, having betrayed one girl, is enabled to marry another by trickery, robbing her of her inheritance and putting her into poverty and wretchedness, drives her to despair and theft, and finally induces her to commit suicide. The police treat her till she is soundly buried, and the coroner pronounces her dead.

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